

State of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
Engineering Division  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

October 12, 2007

Board of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

**Request for Authorization for the Chairperson to Negotiate and Execute Agreements with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to Undertake the Kahuku /Malaekahana Flood Study, Oahu**

**Background**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources and the City and County of Honolulu had a previous agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to undertake the Kahuku Watershed Study, which would determine the 100 year storm event for the Kahuku watershed, identify existing drainage deficiencies, and propose drainage improvements based on their findings.

The Corps participated in this study under the authority of Section 209 of the Flood Control Act of 1962, Public Law 87-874. Preliminary findings, from the Kahuku Watershed Study has found that design alternative to alleviate flooding conditions in Kahuku would not meet the Federal minimum benefit to cost ratio, and the project would not be able to be continued under the current Federal program authority. In order to complete the determination of the 100 year storm event and document the anticipated areas affected, the Corps would need to switch their program authority to Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-251. The community is very concerned with flooding in the area and has expressed support for the completion of this report.

Because existing federal flood insurance rate maps lump both the Kahuku and Malaekahana watersheds together, the study area would need to be extended to include the adjacent watershed of Malaekahana in order to accurately identify flooding impacts.

**Authority**

Chapter 179 HRS empowers the Board of Land and Natural Resources, to render technical and financial assistance to State and County agencies for flood control projects and related flood control activities, as may be desirable or necessary to assure maximum benefits to the people of the State from the expenditure of state funds for flood control purposes.

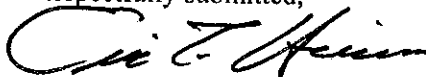
The State portion of the funding for this study was provided for under Act 259, SLH 2001 (LNR 810 - Prevention of Natural Disasters, Kahuku flood Control, Oahu). As the initial study was suspended, approximately \$79,000 of State funds remains unspent by the Corps. The Corps anticipates using \$ 62,000 of these funds to complete the Kahuku/Malaekahana Flood Study.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Land and Natural Resources approve the following:

1. Authorize and direct the Chairperson to negotiate and execute agreements, memoranda of understanding, or other documents as needed with US Army Corps of Engineers to complete the Kahuku & Malaekahana Flood Study.

Respectfully submitted,



ERIC T. HIRANO  
Chief Engineer

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



LAURA H. THIELEN, Chairperson

**ITEM L-3**